

Northampton March 13th 1849



Friend Garrison.

A colored female by the name of Delia Rix, recently from Boston, called at my house yesterday, to inquire if we did not want a domestic; and said there was a self-emancipated slave at your house, by the name of Lydia Thomas, who would like to get a place in the country, and that she, the said Lydia, requested her, the said Delia, to look for a place for her, and let her know if she found one.

We have at present, a very good colored girl, who has been with us about a year; but she is about getting married, and proposes to leave us on the first proximo, but is willing to go sooner if we can get some one to take her place sooner. Mrs. Graham therefore wishes me to write you and learn from you more fully concerning Lydia Thomas.

My family is small, consisting of myself, wife, daughter & son and a little girl we have taken to bring up. My wife has the reputation of being a good housekeeper. She is nice and particular about her work; but not exacting and hard to her help. On the contrary she treats them humanely and kindly, and always wins their respect, confidence and good will: so that, they invariably give her a good name when they leave her, and consequently she has little difficulty in supplying her self with help at any time. We have had quite a number of applications within a few days. But from the account Delia gave of Lydia Thomas, Mrs. G. thought she should like her.

The cardinal virtues of a domestic with Mrs. G. are these; good washing, good ironing, good cooking, and tidiness in every thing. If there is good nature at the bottom of all,

it greatly enhances the value of all.

Now my good brother Garrison, if you have the woman I have mentioned, with you, and are willing to part with her, and if she would like to come to Northampton, and if you think she would like us, and we her, will you be so good as to inform me accordingly. and say when she would be ready to come. We should like to have her come by the first of week after next, and she may come sooner if she chooses to. as the girl now with me, is willing to leave any time. Delia Rix requested us to say to Lydia Thomas that if she concluded to come, and would appoint a time to be here she would meet her at the depot and accompany her to my house. But you know my house is immediately in front of the depot, and is easily found: besides Delia's mother works at the Northampton right by the depot. So that, Lydia need have no apprehension of any difficulty in finding us.

Will you be so good as to answer this letter immediately, and as fully as you conveniently can; respecting the matter of my inquiries

And greatly oblige

Yours truly

S. Graham

P.S. If you still have that pamphlet which you was so kind as to lend me last fall, containing the doings of the Africa Convention, and do not care to keep it, I wish you would send it to me. I know not what I may do in years to come, if my life is spared, in the matter of the political history of American Slavery.

S. G.